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Issue #8

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COMMENCEMENT CROWD CHEERS LESSELL, INGELFINGER: Irma Lessell, 42-year-old mother of four and the first BUSM student to graduate summa cum laude since 1963, received a standing ovation when her degree was awarded at the emotional climax of the School's 103rd commencement May 22.

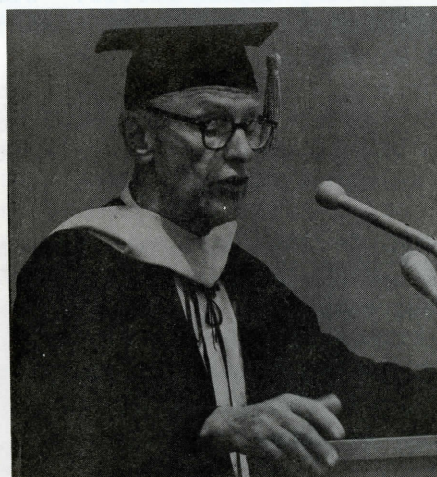
Earlier, Franz J. Ingelfinger, M.D., soon-to-retire editor of the New England Journal of Medicine, had twice brought the capacity crowd at the Case Center gymnasium to its feet, once when he was introduced by Dean Sandson, and again at the end of his address. Ingelfinger told the 134 members of the graduating class that rapid advances in medical technology and the demands of an increasingly egalitarian society have caused the M.D. degree to lose some of its former importance and prestige.

He said that just as the ability to speak Latin is no longer required by the medical curriculum, so have "the honors and privileges of medical diplomats been eroded by changes affecting society and medicine itself."

On the other hand, he said, the medical diploma remains a symbol of scholarship and testifies that its holder has mastered far more knowledge than his predecessors ever had. "Only those whose M.D. degree shows that they have successfully participated in the rigorous scholarship of medical school have the knowledge necessary to understand how the human body works in health and disease," he stated.

COMMENCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

SIMMONS LESSELL WINS TOP TEACHING AWARD: It was a great day for the Lessell family. At the all-University commencement ceremonies held earlier in the day, Simmons Lessell, M.D., a BUSM professor of ophthalmology, neurology and anatomy, and husband of the top student in the Class of 1977, was awarded the coveted Metcalf Cup and Prize for excellence in teaching, a University-wide honor that carries an award of \$2,500.





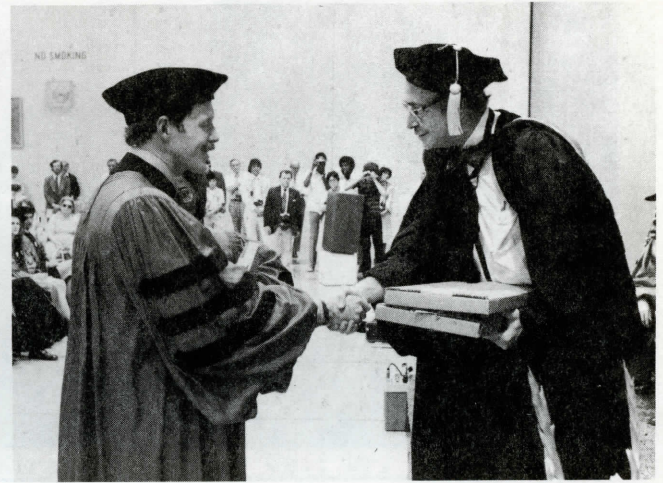
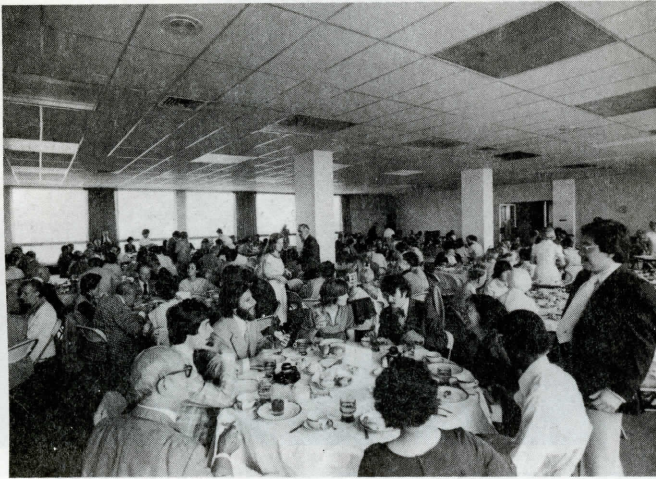
The citation accompanying the award describes Lessell as "a pioneer in the development of the discipline of neuro-ophthalmology," and says "his lucidity and his ability to communicate both information and enthusiasm are matched only by his ability in assimilating and deploying the most recent findings of research and inquiry....He has been called 'the Father-Confessor of Ophthalmology' at the School of Medicine. He exhibits the science and art of medicine at its best."

SONS WITNESS MOTHER'S TRIUMPH: All four Lessell sons were present, with their father, at the School of Medicine commencement to see their mother receive the highest academic honor a medical school can confer on a student--the summa cum laude degree, not awarded by BUSM since 1963. The children are Miller, 19, a student at Amherst College; Jason, 17; Newell, 14; and Ephraim, 10. Also present for the event were Irma's parents, Dr. and Mrs. Saul Miller of Great Neck, N.Y. Dr. Miller is an ophthalmologist.

CHAMPAGNE AND SCRAMBLED EGGS: About 250 students and parents got up early on graduation day to attend the 8:30 a.m. commencement breakfast in Hiebert Lounge, and apparently were glad that they did. Reports from those attending the event were invariably enthusiastic. William F. McNary, Jr., Ph.D., associate dean for student affairs, gave the invocation, Dean Sandson offered a champagne toast to the new graduates, and Richard H. Egdahl, M.D., director of the Medical Center, spoke briefly. Scrambled eggs, ham, muffins, pastry, and juice were served on china plates at flower-bedecked tables covered in pink tablecloths. Dean Sandson said he was pleased at the capacity turnout, and predicted the breakfast would become an annual commencement day event.

THE CLASS OF '77: Five married couples--probably a record number--were among the 101 men and 33 women who received their M.D. degrees from Dean Sandson. The graduates came from 20 states and New Zealand, with 50 from Massachusetts.

Five students--all Massachusetts residents--graduated magna cum laude. They were James F. Heffernan of Belmont, Michael S. Niederman of Newton Center, Patrick A. Sibony of Somerville, Robert S. Snyder of Newton, and Eugene D. Sullivan of Groveland.



Graduating cum laude were Jeffrey C. Allard of Woonsocket, R.I.; Rita A. Altamore of Peterborough, N.H.; Carolyn Ann Bowles of Washington, D.C.; Steven D. Colan of Omaha, Nebr.; James S. Page of Rocky Point, N.Y.; and Stephen C. Ross of Berkeley Heights, N.J.

PRIZES AWARDED: Prizes and awards were presented to the following students during the commencement ceremonies:

Dean Eleanor Tyler Memorial Award: Michael S. Niederman

Bertha Curtis Award; Victoria A. Cargill

Elizabeth K. Moyer Memorial Prize: Jeffrey C. Allard

Pediatrics Award: Wayne I. Lencer

Internal Medicine Awards: James J. Heffernan, Veterans Administration Hospital;
Stephen C. Ross, University Hospital; Robert A. Snyder, Boston City Hospital

Alumni Association Awards: James J. Heffernan, Rita A. Altamore, Irma M. Lessell

Solomon Carter Fuller Award: Victoria A. Cargill

University Hospital Student Prize: Irma M. Lessell

Upjohn Award: Gerald D. Goldman

Malamud Prize in Psychiatry: Carol P. Seibert

John M. Murray Prize: Nina A. Wysznewskyj

Henry Bakst Award in Community Medicine: Michael S. Niederman

Phi Delta Epsilon Women's Club Award: Eugene D. Sullivan

Henry J. Bakst Scholarship: Patrick A. Sibony

Chester S. Keefer Scholarship: Robert A. Snyder

American Medical Women's Association, Janet Glasgow Award: Irma M. Lessell

American Medical Women's Association Scholarship Citations: Rita A. Altamore,
Carolyn Bowles Baker

GRADUATES HONOR BISSENETTE, ROSENTHAL: Anna M. Bissonnette, R.N., and George Rosenthal, M.D., both of the University Hospital Home Medical Service, were honored by the graduating class at commencement. Graduating student Marilyn Matelon took the podium to present a plaque to the pair for "dedication, service and unselfishness in their work with the elderly patients of the Home Medical Service." Matelon announced that the class gift, a cash donation to the Student Revolving Loan Fund, would be made in Bissonnette's and Rosenthal's names. The Home Medical Service, under the direction of Sumner Hoffman, M.D., serves about 500 elderly residents of the South End, Back Bay, Roxbury, Dorchester and the Fenway, and is a required clinical rotation for BUSM fourth-year students.



WILLIAMS NAMED TO TOP SURGERY POSTS: Lester F. Williams, Jr., M.D., BUSM associate dean for the Department of Health and Hospitals and a professor of surgery, has been named chairman of the BUSM Division of Surgery and surgeon-in-chief of University Hospital. The appointment was announced May 25th by Medical Center Director Richard H. Egdahl, M.D.

Williams, 46, a general surgeon known for his clinical and research work in the field of gastrointestinal disease, has been vice-chairman of the Division of Surgery since 1973, and chief of the UH gastrointestinal surgical section since 1971. As an associate dean, he has been responsible for implementing the School's relationship with Boston's Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH). BUSM is responsible for the provision of medical services for DHH. Williams is also director of the Sears Surgical Research Laboratory.

As the surgery chairman, Williams will also hold the James B. Utley Professorship.

Williams replaces John R. Benfield, M.D., who was appointed to the top surgery posts in January, 1977, and who resigned shortly thereafter for personal reasons.

BOARD OF VISITORS HOLDS FIRST MEETING: The School of Medicine's new Board of Visitors gathered for its first meeting and introduction to the School May 18 and 19.

During the two-day visit, the distinguished group was given a general overview of the School, including discussions of its educational and research programs, its relationship to the hospital, and some of the critical issues it currently faces.

Board members were guests Wednesday night at a welcoming dinner at the Castle on the Charles River Campus. On Thursday, the group met members of the Executive Committee at a luncheon in the Hiebert Lounge.

Dean Sandson characterized the two-day session as a "very intense, productive visit" and said he felt "the board went away impressed with the programs of the School."

Mortimer Zuckerman, prominent Boston real estate man, is chairman of the 22-member board. Other members of the group, which plans another visit sometime in the fall, are the following:

Mr. Artin Aslanian, vice-chairman of the Board of Interroyal Corp.; Dr. Marvin Bacaner, a professor of physiology at the Univ. of Minnesota; Mr. Robert Belfer,

president of Belco Petroleum Corporation; Mrs. Walter S. Burrage, founder of Paige Academy; Mr. Earle Cooley, a senior partner of Hale and Dorr, Boston University Trustee; Mr. Alexander d'Arbeloff, president of Teradyne, Inc.; Dr. James Faulkner, former dean and professor at BUSM and first director of the Medical Center; Mr. Richard Goodwin, author; Dr. Gene Gordon, associate psychiatrist at Children's Hospital, Washington, D.C.; Mr. Arnold Hiatt, president of Stride-Rite Corp.; Dr. John H. Knowles, president and trustee of The Rockefeller Foundation; Mr. Lewis F. Kornfeld, president of Radio Shack; Mrs. Florence Mahoney, trustee of the American Aging Association; Mr. Elihu Rose, a partner of Rose Associates, Boston University Trustee; Mr. Louis Rosenfield, an honorary trustee of Boston University; Dr. Paul A. Samuelson, professor of economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Mr. Harry Schwartz, editorial board member of The New York Times; Dr. George W. Thorn, physician-in-chief, emeritus, Peter Bent Brigham Hospital; Mr. Daniel Turkanis, president of Kirstein Leather Co.; Dr. Sanford W. Udis, chairman of the Department of Radiology, Union-Truesdale Hospital, Fall River, Mass.; and Dr. Claude Welch, visiting surgeon at Massachusetts General Hospital.

BUMC CATCHMENT AREA IS "DEATH ZONE"-JENKINS: The Mental Health Catchment Area served by BUMC (MCH Area 602) is an "excessive death zone," having a mortality rate that exceeds the state average more than that of any other area in the state, according to a report by C. David Jenkins, Ph.D., a professor of psychiatry, and coauthors, in the June 9 New England Journal of Medicine.

The number of excess deaths occurring in MHC 602 each year is "considerably larger" than the number of deaths occurring in places the federal government designates as natural disaster areas, the report stated.

Comparing the standard mortality ratios, adjusted for age and sex, for the state's 39 MHC areas, Jenkins and an associate at UMass-Amherst found that Area 602, which includes most of Roxbury and North Dorchester, and parts of the South End and Back Bay, "stood out as the district with the greatest excess mortality." Its neighbor, Area 605, which is the Tufts-New England Medical Center's catchment area and includes portions of the South End, South Boston and North Dorchester, had the second highest excess mortality, and the Lowell area was third.

The report was published in a column in the NEJM edited by Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., state commissioner of public health.

The overall total excess mortality in Area 602 for the study period 1972-73 was 28 percent; this means that 652 more deaths occurred in the area than would have under the statewide average, the report pointed out. Compared with the Newton-Weston-Wellesley MHC area, however, which had the lowest mortality rates, the BU catchment area had 1083 excess deaths.

The authors found a close correlation between sociodemographic factors and the rates of excessive or preventable deaths. The article called for "public action appropriate to the seriousness of the problem," but said that further study is needed to determine specific factors responsible for excess mortality so that effective prevention can be planned.

200 HEAR RUSK AT ALUMNI DINNER: More than 200 alumni, students and guests attended the annual meeting and banquet of the BUSM Alumni Association May 14 at the Copley Plaza Hotel. Howard A. Rusk, M.D, director of the Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine at New York University Medical Center, was principal speaker.

Citing the rapid advances being made in rehabilitation medicine, Rusk said,

"If someone asked me 15 years ago what we could do for kids with broken necks, I would have thought getting 15 percent back into some kind of useful life would be rather good. Two three-year retrospective studies of 130 children with broken necks, one begun six years ago, showed that 53 percent were back in school or doing some kind of gainful work. Last year the second study came out, covering the next three years, showing 83 percent able to lead productive lives."

The day of the meeting, alumni were given tours of the Medical Center, followed by a coffee hour and talk by Dean Sandson, who discussed issues in medical education. A luncheon was later served in the Hiebert Lounge. Nearly half the Class of '52, this year's 25th reunion class, attended the special activities planned for them, beginning with a bus tour of Boston Friday afternoon. Later that evening they attended a reception and dinner at the Castle on the Charles River Campus.

New officers of the Alumni Association were elected following dinner Saturday night. They are: Alan S. Cohen, '52, president; P. Anthony Penta, '51, first vice president; Peter E. Pochi, '55, second vice president; Job E. Fuchs, '44, secretary; Edward Spindell, '53, assistant secretary; Lester F. Williams, Jr., '56, treasurer; Donald T. Devine, '50, assistant treasurer; and Barry M. Manuel, '58, auditor.

Appointed to the board of directors were (term expiring 1978) Donna R. Barnard, '65, and Martin B. Levene, '50; (term expiring 1979) Arnold L. Berenberg, '46, and Judith L. Vaitukaitis, '66; (term expiring 1980) Elizabeth C. Dooling, '65, and Murray M. Freed, '52.

BYRNE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF MASS. MEDICAL SOCIETY: John J. Byrne, M.D., a professor of surgery and of socio-medical sciences and community medicine, and director of undergraduate surgical training at BUSM, was elected president of the Massachusetts Medical Society at the annual meeting of the Society's Council last month. Byrne is also an esteemed UH surgeon and director of the hand service at BUMC.

RYSER WARNS OF POSSIBLE SMOKING LINK TO BIRTH DEFECTS: Recent research data suggest that cigarette smoking by a pregnant woman may cause birth defects in her unborn child, Hughes J.-P. Ryser, M.D., BUSM professor of pathology and pharmacology, told a June 2 meeting of the National Commission on Smoking and Public Policy at the Prudential Center.

In remarks based on findings of researchers at the University of California at Berkeley, Ryser cited tests that showed that the urine of smokers causes certain bacteria to mutate, while the urine of nonsmokers does not. The mutagens that show up in the urine also enter the mother's bloodstream and can cause damaging genetic mutations in the developing fetus.

Furthermore, Ryser pointed out, mutagens circulating in the blood of young adults are likely to increase the occurrence of genetic mutations and thus, the occurrence of genetic diseases.

He was one of more than 50 noted scientists and civic leaders who testified before the 24-member blue-ribbon committee appointed by the American Cancer Society, which included Nobel laureates David Baltimore, professor of biology at MIT, and Salvatore E. Luria, director of the Center for Cancer Research at MIT.

The hearing, which was open to the public, was one of eight to be held by the commission in various cities nationwide on the relationship of tobacco and cancer.

JENKINS ADDRESSES HEART GROUP: O'REILLY, WEXLER ELECTED TO BOARD: C. David Jenkins, Ph.D., a professor of psychiatry and director of the Department of Behavioral Epidemiology, was the featured speaker at the May 26 annual meeting of the Greater Boston Chapter of the American Heart Association.

During his talk, "Behavioral Science Risk Factors and Your Future," Jenkins discussed the psychosocial and behavioral factors that raise risk in coronary heart disease.

At the same meeting, Patrick O'Reilly, administrator of the Cardiovascular Institute, and Laura Wexler, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine, were elected to the Chapter's board of directors.

The board consists of 54 members from the medical and lay communities who serve three year terms. Persons elected to the board must have shown a deep commitment to and creative effort in the heart movement, according to John Clarke of the Greater Boston Chapter.

O'Reilly and Wexler were among nine new members elected at the meeting, which was held at the Hyatt-Regency Hotel in Cambridge.

SANDSON, BETJEMANN PROPOSAL AIRED ON TV: Dean Sandson and University Hospital Administrator John H. Betjemann discussed the decentralization of hospital services through multi-hospital systems as a possible solution to the problem of spiraling hospital costs on the "Sunday Open House" program on Channel 5 Sunday morning, June 5th. They were interviewed by the talk show's cohost, Sonya Hamlin, who is also a BUSM adjunct assistant professor of socio-medical sciences and community medicine.

Betjemann's and Sandson's proposal for hospital "systems consolidation" was originally outlined in an article that appeared in the Boston Sunday Globe, April 24.

The School has arranged to obtain a videotape cassette of the broadcast, and will show it for interested persons at a date and time to be announced.

B.U. TO SHARE IN \$3 MILLION CANCER GRANT: The B.U. Cancer Research Center is one of four Boston cancer centers that will share in a grant of nearly \$3 million from the National Cancer Institute for educational and outreach demonstration programs over the next three years, it was announced last week.

Sidney Cooperband, M.D, a professor of medicine and microbiology at BUSM, and director of the Boston University Cancer Research Center, has been named co-investigator for the grant, along with Douglas Marchant, M.D, of Tufts-New England Medical Center and Howard Ulfelder, M.D., of the Massachusetts General Hospital.

Part of the grant will go to fund the Regional Cancer Control Committee--which, besides BU, consists of the Cox Cancer Center at the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Sidney Farber Cancer Institute, and Tufts-New England Medical Center--and various other health organizations and institutions within the state.

This is the first time that these institutions have organized to work jointly to improve the organization and quality of cancer control in New England.

REPORT VEGETABLE FAT--CANCER LINK: Rats fed a diet high in polyunsaturated fat developed more large-bowel cancers than either of two groups of rats fed a diet

containing saturated fat, when all three groups were given a cancer-inducing chemical, in a study reported on recently by Sara W. Rothman, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of microbiology, and Selwyn A. Broitman, Ph.D., a professor of microbiology.

The two BUSM scientists presented their findings at the 77th annual meeting of the American Society for Microbiology, held last month in New Orleans. The results may have possible implications for persons who have switched to polyunsaturated fats in their diets to reduce the risk of developing heart disease.

Among the rats fed saturated fat, those receiving a high-fat diet developed 175 percent more tumors than those given a low-fat diet. But in both saturated-fat groups, the number of rats developing tumors and the number of tumors per rat were lower than in the group fed polyunsaturated fat. Diets in all three groups were high in cholesterol.

"Extrapolating from animal to human studies always entails some difficulties, but the findings would suggest that diets high in polyunsaturated fats aimed at reducing cholesterol levels in the blood might conceivably increase the risk of developing cancer in the large bowel," Broitman said.

TO STUDY AGE-RELATED EFFECTS OF DRUGS: A \$55,102 grant to study and analyze the age-related effects of drugs has been awarded to the Boston Collaborative Drug Surveillance Program, headed by Hershel Jick, M.D., an associate professor of medicine. The grant is funded by the National Institute on Aging (NIA).

Americans over age 65 make up 10 percent of the population, yet buy 25 percent of all prescription drugs, according to the NIA. These drugs often cause paradoxical or adverse reactions in the old. While pharmacologists know that infants and young children require special dosages, medications for the elderly are prescribed in much the same manner as they are for younger adults.

The NIA expects that the data collected by the BCDSP can be used in building prescription guidelines with dosage information that will be useful to physicians in prescribing drugs for their older patients.

ROSE TO BE PSYCHIATRY CHIEF AT GALVESTON: Robert M. Rose, M.D., a professor of psychiatry and chairman of the Department of Psychosomatic Medicine, has been appointed chairman-designate of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston.

Rose plans to move to Galveston to assume his new post sometime between April and June, 1978. Until then, he will spend three to five days each month at the University of Texas.

Rose served for three and one-half years, until this past April, as chairman of BUMC's Human Subjects Committee. His research centers on determining the influence of tension on human behavior and bodily functions.

328 HAVE BLOOD SUGAR CHECKED: A total of 328 BU and UH employees at the Medical Center participated in a free diabetes screening conducted by the Department of Medicine's diabetes and metabolism unit and the Employee Health Clinic April 21 and 28. Twenty-three persons were referred to the diabetes and metabolism unit at UH for additional testing as a result of the screening.

Persons found to have slightly elevated glucose levels would most likely be treated with a modified diet, according to Neil B. Ruderman, M.D., D. Phil.,

director of the unit. Ruderman said he doubted that anyone identified by the screening would require insulin therapy. In addition to performing glucose-tolerance tests on the employees, screening personnel also checked triglyceride and cholesterol levels.

MATERIAL USED IN PLASTIC SOFT-DRINK BOTTLES FOUND TOXIC TO RATS: A material used in the manufacture of certain soft-drink beverage containers causes toxic effects on the adrenal and thyroid glands in rats, according to research reported on last week by two School of Medicine researchers.

Pavel Komanicky, M.D., an instructor in medicine, and James C. Melby, M.D., a professor of medicine and physiology and chairman of the Department of Endocrinology, and their colleagues at the Harvard Medical School, determined that the material known as acrilonigrile, used in plastic beverage bottles, causes cellular damage in the two glands.

The researchers fed one group of rats the material for 21 days and the second group of rats the material for 60 days. Both groups of rats showed a 50 percent weight loss compared to control groups. The short-term group had a 40 percent mortality rate and the long-term group had a 60 percent mortality rate. Because of differences in age between the two groups of rats, however, mortality comparisons are difficult, according to Komanicky.

The rats were fed the acrilonigrile in quantities ranging from 2 parts per million (ppm) to 100 ppm. "The higher the dose, the more significant was the effect," Komanicky said.

It is unknown how much acrilonigrile humans would consume from soft drinks contained in plastic bottles and whether humans would be adversely affected in a manner similar to the rats if given the same dose of acrilonigrile, said Komanicky.

Komanicky and Melby presented the results of their research in a paper entitled "Chemically Induced Adrenocortical Insufficiency in the Rat," at the annual meeting of the Endocrine Society in Chicago, June 8-10.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH TO MOVE: The Employee Health Clinic was scheduled to be moved this week from its present location on the second floor of the Doctors Office Building to an area of the Emergency Room. Clinic Director Constance Cornog, M.D., said the move would take place Wednesday, June 15.

The clinic will occupy part of the area where outpatients are currently seen and will share the outpatient waiting area.

HOLD FAMILY PRACTICE SYMPOSIUM HERE: More than 100 medical students from BUSM, Tufts, Harvard and the University of Massachusetts attended a May 7 symposium on family practice held at University Hospital and organized by SCOMSA and graduating BUSM students entering family practice residencies.

The symposium, organized to give Boston-area students an opportunity to learn more about family practice in both urban and rural settings, was organized around presentations by a panel of six eminent primary-care practitioners, educators and administrators.

KANTROWITZ NAMED TO HEAD AMBULATORY CARE: Warren Kantrowitz, M.D., a clinical instructor of medicine at BUSM, has been appointed administrator for ambulatory care and special services at University Hospital. In this role, he will have responsibility for the Hospital's Evans Medical Clinic, Emergency Room, all Hospital

outpatient departments, and ambulatory psychiatric services. Kantrowitz, BUSM class of 1960, completed his internship and residency at University Hospital, and served as the Hospital's chief resident in medicine in 1966.

GIFFORD TO BOARD OF OSLER SOCIETY: George E. Gifford, Jr., M.D., an associate professor of socio-medical sciences, was honored recently by being elected to the five-member Board of Governors of the American Osler Society. Membership in the society is limited to 60 persons who are distinguished in clinical medicine and the humanities. Gifford was elected to the board at the society's annual meeting, held recently at the Mayo Clinic.

In addition, Gifford served as program chairman for the three-day meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine, held recently at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

LEVINE GUEST AT MILAN SYMPOSIUM: Ruth R. Levine, Ph.D., a professor of pharmacology and chairman of the Division of Medical and Dental Sciences, presented a paper entitled "Role of Monitoring Plasma Levels of Psychotropic Substances," at a symposium on "Perspectives in Psychopharmacotherapy," sponsored by the World Health Organization and the Fondazione Internazionale Menarini in Milan, Italy, April 6-8. Levine traveled as a guest of the Menarini Foundation.

EXECUTIVES ELECTED TO BU TRUSTEES: Two executives of international corporations have been elected members of the Board of Trustees of Boston University. They are Ross Barzelay, president of General Foods Corp., and Julian M. Sobin, senior vice-president of International Minerals & Chemical Corp.

Barzelay has been with General Foods for more than 25 years and is currently serving as principal deputy to the chairman. Sobin, a member of the Department of Commerce Advisory Committee on East-West Trade, was one of the first three American businessmen invited to visit Peking in 1972.

JONES IS NEW SOCIAL WORK DEAN: Hubert E. Jones, an associate professor and director of the Community Fellows Program at MIT, has been appointed dean of the BU School of Social Work and will assume his new post on July 1. He succeeds Dean Joseph F. Meisels, who is retiring.

In addition to his responsibilities at MIT, Jones lectures in the Boston University Metropolitan College Urban Affairs Program. He consults for the Cambridge Public Schools Follow Through Program and the City-Wide Educational Coalition, Inc.

BRIEFLY NOTED: Boston University will offer eligible employees full tuition remission for one course, and one-half tuition remission for a second course taken during any academic semester, effective September 1, 1977. Spouses will continue to receive one-half tuition remission, and dependent children, full tuition remission, after the employee completes four and eight months of service respectively....The School of Medicine has received a gift of \$5,908 from the American Medical Association Education and Research Foundation. The funds, raised by AMA-ERF in 1976 through individual contributions, carry no restrictions as to how they are to be used by the School....Aleksander A. Mathé, M.D., Ph.D., an associate professor of psychiatry and pharmacology, and Chrystal A. Leslie, Ph.D., a research associate in pharmacology, were two of the authors (the others were Per Hedqvist, M.D., Ph.D., and Kjell Strandberg, M.D., Ph.D.), of a paper entitled "Aspects of Prostaglandin Function In The Lung," in the April 14 New England Journal of Medicine.

Ernest J. Ferris, M.D., a professor of radiology and UH radiologist-in-chief, has been appointed professor and chairman of the Department of Radiology at the University of Arkansas Medical Center, Little Rock, effective Sept. 1....J. Worth Estes, M.D., an associate professor of pharmacology and socio-medical sciences and president of the Westwood Historical Society, spoke on "The Siege of Boston-- Its Medical Problems and First Traitor" at the March meeting of the Contentment Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution....Herb Lewis has been appointed accounting manager for BUMC. Lewis will direct all accounting activities for BUSM, BUSGD, and BUMC Headquarters. Peggy Calla has been promoted to the position of accounting supervisor. The Lewis appointment and the Calla promotion were announced by Robert N. Jordan, business manager for medical affairs....The BUSM Alumni Library has announced it is refusing borrowing privileges to persons with overdue books and/or periodicals....

Coffee, tea, donuts, and danish can now be purchased from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. in front of Evans 119....The BUMC machine shop, located in Room 14 of the Research Building, is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for anyone who would like work done there in stainless steel, brass, aluminum, lucite, teflon, and nylon. If you have any questions, call Mr. Maurice Forbes, extension 6205, or Linda Doucette, extension 6290....The new Medical College Admission Test was given for the first time April 30 at 477 U.S. and 50 overseas test centers. The AAMC reported that the reaction of candidates and others involved in the administration of the test "was remarkably free of specific concerns and complaints."

NEWS & NOTES is a publication of the Office of Informational Services. If you have news of possible interest to the School of Medicine community, call News & Notes editor Lorraine Loviglio at ext. 5606, or write to her at the Office of Informational Services, P-300. From outside the Medical Center, call 247-5606, or write to Suite 300, 720 Harrison Avenue, Boston 02118.